

SPRIT OF THE PRESS.

EDITORIAL OPINIONS OF THE LEADING JOURNALS UPON CURRENT TOPICS—COMPILED WEEKLY FOR THE EVENING TELEGRAPH.

FRANCE AND GERMANY.

From the N. Y. Herald. All our recent intelligence from Europe shows that, though the war cloud has not yet burst, the sunshine of security does not rest upon the border lands of France and Prussia.

It is impossible to mistake the meaning of certain recent public acts of the French Emperor. To make war a prominent question of the hour would be dangerous. It would tell injuriously against the government at the elections now so close at hand.

That is the question which many minds are now seriously asking themselves, but which few find themselves competent to answer. We have said already that Count Bismark is not desirous of peace manifestations. In the North German Parliament, the other day, he made a speech which furnishes us with a key to his thoughts.

NEUTRALITY IN CUBAN AFFAIRS.

From the N. Y. World. If the Cuban demonstration in this city a few evenings since shall tend to satisfy President Grant how senseless it would be for him to follow the advice of Mr. Sumner, and make a Queen's proclamation of May 13, 1861, a *casus belli*, if not apologized and atoned for by England, it will not have been altogether in vain.

Assume that President Grant, inspired by the moral force of the recent demonstration or the eloquence of Mr. McKean, enters upon an inquiry into the condition of the Cuban Insurrection to ascertain whether they have a *de facto* political organization, sufficient in character, population, and resources to constitute a State if left alone and with the power of Spain withdrawn.

public duty were supreme as to the necessity of propriety such an act and that Spain was only entitled to hold us responsible for faithful execution of the neutrality we had declared? Would not every self-respecting nation be bound to make such a reply?

The friends of Cuba need to reflect what will be the consequence of recognition of belligerent rights in the insurgents and a declaration of neutrality on the part of the United States, if President Grant, unlike Earl Russell, is honest in maintaining the latter declared impartial neutrality between the insurgents and Spain.

There was a time, however, when Great Britain did not permit her territory to be made a base and starting point for military expeditions against a friendly power, and her conduct then may be worth the study of President Grant. It was in the struggle between Donna Maria and her uncle, Don Miguel, for the throne of Portugal.

How strikingly different was the conduct of the Ministry in reference to those Anglo-Rebel cruisers fitted out in England in violation of international and municipal law, and received on the open arms of friendly hospitals in her ports after their career of plunder and death!

THE MAYOR OF CORK.

From the N. Y. Times. The English Government seems to be greatly perplexed as to what to do with the troublesome Mayor of Cork, who will persist in abusing England, threatening the Government, sympathizing with Fenians, and making himself generally obnoxious.

It certainly seems unfortunate that at the present moment, when every effort is being made, consistently with the necessary constitutional and legal formalities, to remove all grounds of grievance from Irishmen *qua* Catholics, and when there is little doubt but that next session will see the passage of a measure designed to mitigate, if not to remove, the evils of the existing system of land tenure in Ireland, that a frebrand like the bellicose Mayor of Cork should have seized the occasion to excite the too inflammable feelings of his townsmen, and to force the English Government into an attitude of apparent hostility towards the sister island.

TOO MANY IRONS.

From the N. Y. Times. The French have a very old, very well-tested, and very true proverb—*Qui trop embrasse mal serré*—whose pith we express somewhat less generally and less positively when we say a man has "too many irons in the fire."

THE USE OF RICH MEN.

From the N. Y. Sun. Men who devote themselves to the accumulation of money are so often guilty of all sorts of meanness and fraud in accomplishing their purpose, that it is not surprising to find them as a class the objects of popular distaste.

unless the goods those ships both carry and bring hinder to the necessities and the comfort of those who are expected to buy them. He cannot establish a manufactory and make it yield him the money he covets unless his productions are such as a large number of people think it their advantage to use.

Besides this, as we all know, money breeds money. John Jacob Astor used to say that the getting of his first thousand dollars cost him more pains than that of all his fortune besides. With large pecuniary means at his command, a man can attempt and carry out successfully schemes which would otherwise prove abortive.

Of course, we owe no thanks to most of our millionaires for the good they accomplish. They are looking out for their own interests, and only promote ours because they cannot help it. But when we are disposed to murmur at their being permitted to hold so much wealth, it may be of comfort to us to remember that, after all, they do not get the exclusive benefit of their possessions.

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